

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CANBER 04990 120151Z

67

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04

USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00

ACDA-07 FEA-01 SAJ-01 MC-02 NRC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 /134 W

----- 102908

R 120124Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8497

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CANBERRA 4990

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, ENRG, AS, UR

SUBJ: POSSIBLE AUSTRALIAN-USSR URANIUM DEALS

REF: CANBERRA 4102

1. AUSTRALIAN PRESS ON THE EVE OF THE DEPARTURE OF
MINISTER FOR NATIONAL RESOURCES, DOUG ANTHONY, TO THE SOVIET
UNION REPEATED EARLIER REPORTS THAT ANTHONY WILL DISCUSS URANIUM
ENRICHMENT AND DIRECT URANIUM SALES TO THE SOVIET UNION ON
HIS CURRENT VISIT TO MOSCOW. ANTHONY SAID THAT THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR
TO AUSTRALIA HAD APPROACHED HIM ON THE SUBJECT AND THAT THE
SOVIETS WERE MAINLY SEEKING THE COMMERCIAL BENEFIT FROM THE
ENRICHMENT TECHNOLOGY.

2. ANTHONY STATED THAT HE SEES NOTHING WRONG WITH HAVING
AUSTRALIAN URANIUM ENRICHED IN THE SOVIET UNION. ANTHONY
ALSO SAID THERE WOULD BE NOTHING WRONG WITH SELLING URANIUM
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CANBER 04990 120151Z

TO THE SOVIET UNION, OR ANYBODY ELSE, AS LONG AS THE PRICE

WAS RIGHT AND THE TRANSACTION WAS DONE IN ACCORD WITH INTERNATIONAL RULES AND REGULATIONS.

3. AS USUAL, ANTHONY QUALIFIED HIS STATEMENTS BY POINTING OUT THAT NO GOA POLICY DECISION RELATING TO URANIUM WILL BE MADE UNTIL COMPLETION OF THE RANGER INQUIRY (FOX COMMISSION).

4. EMBASSY SOURCES IN THE DEPT. OF NATIONAL RESOURCES EXPRESSED SURPRISE WITH ANTHONY'S STATEMENT THAT URANIUM COULD BE SOLD TO THE SOVIET UNION. EMBOFF WAS TOLD THAT IT WAS UNLIKELY THAT THE SOVIETS WOULD WANT TO PURCHASE AUSTRALIAN URANIUM AS THEY HAVE SUFFICIENT RESERVES THEMSELVES. HOWEVER, EVEN IF THE SOVIETS WISHED TO PURCHASE AUSTRALIAN URANIUM IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT THE SALE WOULD BE MADE BECAUSE OF LIKELY DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL REPERCUSSIONS.

5. AUSTRALIA WOULD HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH HAVING AUSTRALIAN URANIUM ENRICHED IN THE SOVIET UNION PRIOR TO BEING DELIVERED TO A THIRD-PARTY PURCHASER. UTILIZATION OF SOVIET ENRICHMENT FACILITIES WOULD BE A MATTER BETWEEN THE THIRD-PARTY PURCHASER AND THE SOVIETS.

6. COMMENT: ANTHONY'S DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING URANIUM ENRICHMENT OR SALES SHOULD BE VIEWED AS ONLY A PART OF BROADER TRADE-ORIENTED DISCUSSIONS. IT SEEMS UNLIKELY THAT ANY IN-DEPTH DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING URANIUM WILL TAKE PLACE AT THIS TIME IN VIEW OF THE SENSITIVE NATURE OF URANIUM DISCUSSIONS PRIOR TO COMPLETION OF THE RANGER INQUIRY.
HARGROVE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ENERGY, URANIUM, SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976CANBER04990
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760267-0533
From: CANBERRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760769/aaaaciqg.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 CANBERRA 4102
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 MAR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <09 AUG 2004 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE AUSTRALIAN-USSR URANIUM DEALS
TAGS: EMIN, ENRG, AS, UR, (ANTHONY, DOUG)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006